



<http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org/>

Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, Inc.

Extra info

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BFRT Recent Accomplishments, Status and Goals

Definitions

- Phase I: 7.5 miles from Lowell - Cross Point Towers through Chelmsford to Rte 225 + Rte 27 in Westford
- "Missing link" 0.2 miles in Westford and 0.2 miles in Carlisle.
- Official Phase II: 13 miles Carlisle, Acton, Concord, to Rte 20 in Sudbury
- Phase III: 4.5 miles from Rte 20 in Sudbury to Rte 9 in Framingham

Accomplishments – Town Specific

Acton

- Trail Clearing October 2005. 40 Participants and local business support. Such a success will be repeating and continuing clearing March, 2006.
- Outreach events: Winterfest, Acton Day, Oktoberfest.
- Tracked down EOT Lease with Falmouth
- Worked with Town on Support of Resor Amendment.
- Request BoS to work with Carlisle and Westford on "25% Design" for the "Missing Link"

Carlisle

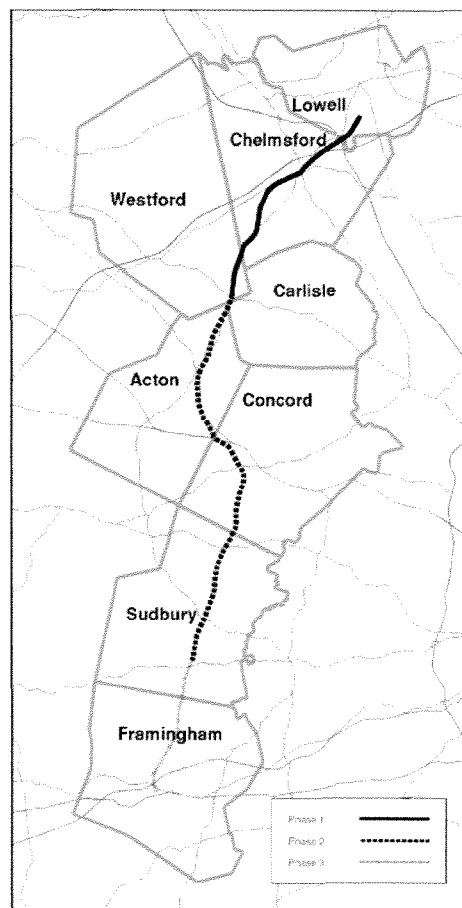
- Carlisle Board of Selectmen requesting to be included Acton lead RFP for "25% Design"
- Applying for CPA funds
- Selectmen named Task Force to work BFRT issues

Westford

- Westford Board of Selectmen requesting to be included Acton lead RFP for "25% Design"
- Applying for CPA funds at May 2006 Town Meeting

Concord

- Completed Feasibility Study
- Established new BFRT Advisory Committee
- Friends applying for CPA 25% design funding: \$160k
- Trail clearing – September 2005.



Sudbury

- Town Meeting vote for CPA Feasibility Study: \$25k
- Trail Committee progressing. Voting on RFP for Feasibility Study January 12, 2006.

Framingham / Sudbury

- Framingham Friends meet regularly to strategize
- Rails and ties removed in Framingham and South Sudbury
- CTPS Feasibility Study on Phase III near completion

Accomplishments Regional / State

- Inclusion of BFRT Route 2 crossing in the Mass Highway Prison Rotary redesign
- Programming of \$4.4 million of TIP (Transportation Improvement Plan) funding for FY 2008 budget
- Improved coordination with state officials at EOT, MPO, MAPC, NMCOG, and MassHighway
- Led letter-writing effort to support Senator Resor's amendment to resolve insurance indemnification
- MassHighway allocates funds for Redesign of Phase I.
- Matchmaker between construction firms and steel recycler that values the rails far above steel scrap levels. Could save State and Towns \$\$\$\$ millions.

Accomplishments - Organizational

- Substantial growth in FBFRT supporters and members
- Obtained 501(c)(3) charitable status
- Developed and published newsletter
- Increased Board to include members from all 7 Towns on BFRT
- Developed website: <http://www.brucefreemanrailtrail.org/>

2006 Goals

- Groundbreaking on Phase I construction in Lowell, Chelmsford and Westford
- Obtain 25% design costs for Phase II through Community Preservation funding in Acton, Carlisle, Westford, and Concord.
- Complete 25% design by year end 2006 in Acton, Carlisle, Westford, and Concord.
- Complete Sudbury Feasibility Study in 2006.
- Complete CTPS Feasibility Study for Phase III
- EOT (Executive Office of Transportation)
 - Removal of rails and ties on Right-of-Way
 - Formally extend BFRT to include Phase 3
 - Purchase of CSXT corridor in Sudbury & Framingham
- Passage of Senator Resor's indemnification legislation
- Increase number of FBFRT members via:
 - Participation in community events
 - Trail clearings
 - Business development
 - Publicity